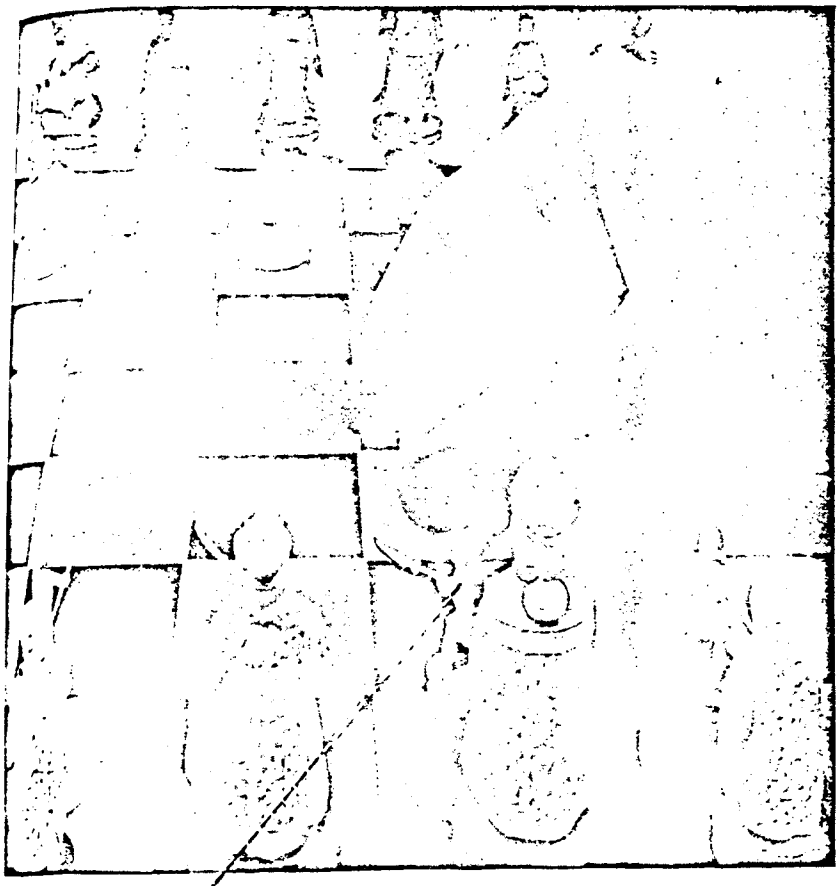

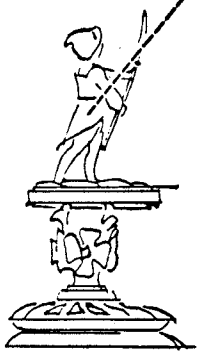

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MOTOROLA

BOOKS

1957 (64)

THE EVOLUTION OF HUMAN NATURE

by C. Judson Herrick
University of Texas Press $7.50

Reviewed by R. W. Sperry
Professor of Psychobiology

THIS LARGE volume is divided into two parts, the first dealing with the biological and the second with more specific neurological factors in psychobiology. The whole is a somewhat heterogeneous discussion of diverse issues, findings, and theories relating to the nervous system, behavior, and experience, and to their evolution.

The author, who is professor emeritus of neurology at the University of Chicago, has devoted some 60 years to intensive study of the microstructure of vertebrate brains and has published well over 100 outstanding papers and monographs on his original researches, plus seven books—including his *Introduction to Neurology*, which ran to five editions, and his *Brain of the Tiger Salamander*, an unquestioned classic in the field of comparative neurology. He is probably the world's most eminent living authority on the apparatus of mind and behavior.

In this latest volume of 34 chapters in 508 pages, Herrick, who is now in his late 80's, surveys some of the more important deductions regarding the biological bases of human nature and behavior which he has drawn in the course of his long, productive career. From the beginning, Herrick's investigations of the brain have been motivated by a deep interest in the nature of mind, and his scientific publications have been intermixed, since the turn of the century, with associated articles in philosophy. Accordingly, the present book, with its epilogue on "The Unknown God," is not another elderly scientist's late fling at philosophy, but represents the matured outcome of an active life-long concern with

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

another example of exciting work at los alamos...

FAST PHOTOGRAPHY
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PICTURES/SECOND

Here at Los Alamos, the development of high speed photography has produced framing cameras of unprecedented framing rates and exposure times. These cameras are capable of taking as many as 90 frames at rates as high as 15 *million* frames a second. They employ the technique of sweeping the image, reflected from a rapidly rotating mirror, over a set of correcting lenses onto the recording film. This results in the effective stopping of image motion within the frame. In addition to the creation of new optical components, the construction of these cameras has involved the development of techniques for rotating mirrors of substantial size at speeds as high as 22,000 revolutions *per second.*

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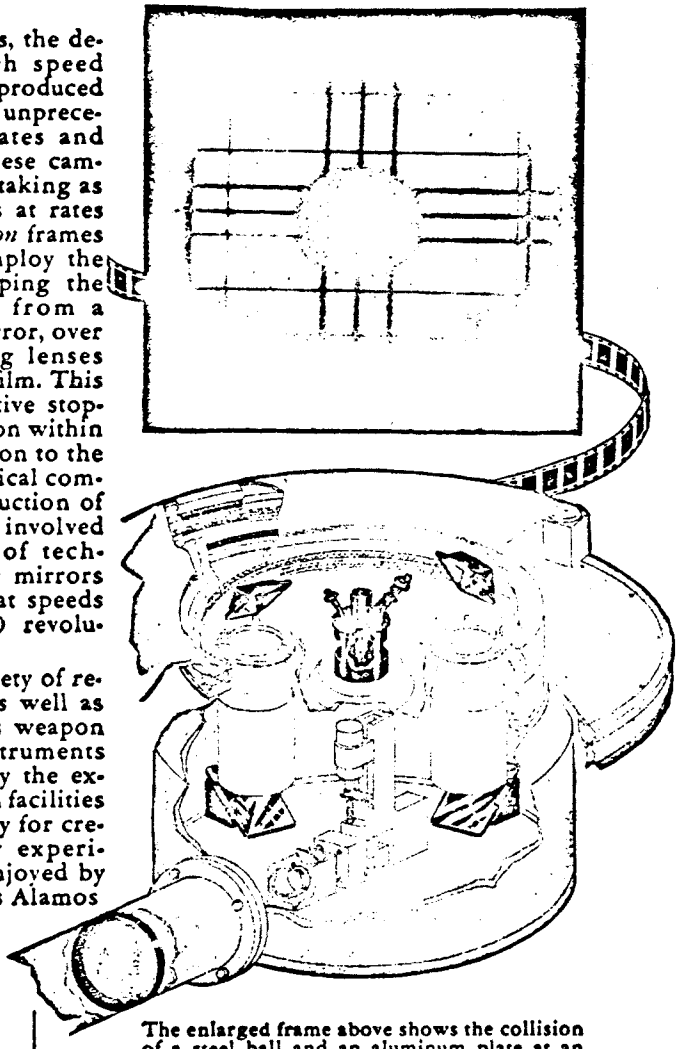

The enlarged frame above shows the collision of a steel ball and an aluminum plate at an approximate velocity of 4 millimeters/microsecond, illustrative of studies of interaction of metals at high impact velocity. The cutaway drawing shows some of the features of one of the Laboratory's high speed framing cameras.

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psychophysical and correlated problems, approached from the vantage point of an intimate and perhaps unequaled working knowledge of brain organization.

The title is not strictly indicative of the content, but perhaps serves as well as any for binding together the collected theories of the author, which touch upon topics that range widely from emergent evolution, morals, and creativity, through psychomechanics and the indeterminacy principle, on down to details of cerebral structure.

Any critical reader is bound to find plenty with which to argue, especially in the first half of the book, where Herrick frequently risks judgment in fields rather remote from his specialty. In any case—right, wrong, or incomplete—Herrick's concept of the human mind and its relation to brain mechanism deserves serious consideration by anyone concerned with this paramount enigma, whether it be from the standpoint of science, religion, or philosophy.

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